

2024 WEKU Holiday Programming

WEKU 88.9 FM:

Thu. Nov. 28 Noon-2p

Turkey Confidential

On the Splendid Table's annual Thanksgiving show, Francis Lam takes calls and comes to the rescue of Thanksgiving cooks, kitchen helpers, and inner guests during the biggest cooking day of the year.

Sun. Dec. 15 at 8p

Lexington Philharmonic – Cathedral Christmas 2023

LexPhil and the Lexington Singers return to the Cathedral of Christ the King for this Lexington holiday tradition in a program of sacred orchestral and choral works.

Fri. Dec. 20 at 7p

Joy to the World with Zara Bode

Pianist Bob Thompson welcomes vocalist Zara Bode and trumpet player Dr. James Moore for our holiday jazz celebration, "Joy to the World."

Fri. Dec. 20 at 8p

Jazz Piano Christmas

Join the Kennedy Center and NPR Music for this annual holiday tradition highlighting jazz pianists and their favorite seasonal music, captured live in concert with a small audience. The all-star lineup includes Patrice Rushen, Gerald Clayton and Eric Reed. Felix Contreras hosts.

Fri. Dec. 20 at 9p

Jazz Classics Christmas Special

Roger Chessier has curated a special 3-hour Christmas presentation of classic jazz.

Wed Dec 25 at 12p

Selected Shorts: Holiday Hitches

We love the holidays, but sometimes things don't go as planned. This seasonal special hosted by Meg Wolitzer, offers three tales about uncommon roads travelled by the celebrants.

Wed Dec 25 at 1p

Jonathan Winters' A Christmas Carol

An updated version of a public radio tradition hosted by NPR's Susan Stemberg. Master comedian Jonathan Winters presents a distinctive reading of Dickens' holiday classic, with a special performing edition prepared by Dickens for his own presentations. Also featuring Mimi Kennedy.

Thu. Dec. 26 at 8p

Hanukkah Lights

This NPR favorite returns with the best of the best Hanukkah Lights stories from the last 30 years. Hosted by Susan Stamberg and Murray Horwitz

Fri. Dec. 27 at 9p

Jazz Classics New Year's Special

Roger Chessier has curated a special 3-hour holiday presentation of classic jazz.

Tue Dec. 31 Midnight-4a

Toast of the Nation

An NPR tradition every New Year's Eve since the 1970s, *Toast of the Nation* is the perfect audio complement for the occasion. It's festive jazz you can party to, all night long. The line-up is almost confirmed and it's sure to be a good time.

WEKU Classical:

Thu. Nov. 28 at 11a

Every Good Thing

On Thanksgiving, host Andrea Blain and classical music fans from all around the country take some time to give thanks and celebrate one of life's most meaningful gifts: music. It's "Every Good Thing" — an hour of stories and music to celebrate

Thu. Nov 28 12-1p

Songs of Thanks

Through their signature narrative programming, Cantus will weave together stories and songs celebrating gratitude and community. Don't miss this special broadcast, designed to uplift the human spirit and honor the season.

Wed. Dec. 18 at 9p

Lexington Philharmonic – Cathedral Christmas 2023

LexPhil and the Lexington Singers return to the Cathedral of Christ the King for this Lexington holiday tradition in a program of sacred orchestral and choral works.

Sat Dec 21 at Noon

Carols, Customs and Candlelight: A Celtic Christmas Celebration

Listen as host Andrea Blain explores music and customs that have roots in ancient winter celebrations and traditional Christmas festivals. The music features classical ensembles and soloists like Apollo's Fire and Bryn Terfel, as well as traditional instruments like harp, fiddle and mandolin.

Tue Dec 24 at 3p

All Is Bright

Hosted by Lynne Warfel, *All Is Bright: Contemplative Music for Christmas* presents one hour of gorgeous, contemplative music related to the Christmas season and its symbolism. This program uses sacred choral music grouped in a way to tell the traditional Christmas story by way of songs about angels, the star, and the manger scene. Featured artists include Cambridge Singers, Cantus, and Chanticleer

Tue Dec 24 4-6p

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is world-wide Christmas Eve performance of a service of Biblical readings, carols, and related seasonal Classical music. This special will be presented by one of the world's foremost choirs of men and boys and performed in an acoustically and architecturally renowned venue, the 500-year-old Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, England.

Wed Dec 25 at 10a

Welcome Christmas

Welcome Christmas is a perennial Christmas favorite from VocalEssence, one of the world's premiere choral groups, conducted by Philip Brunelle. This program presents an hour of traditional carols and new discoveries, including the world premiere of two carols from the annual Christmas Carol Contest.

Wed Dec 25 at 11a

A Chanticleer Christmas

This one-hour program of holiday favorites, new and old, will be presented live in concert by Chanticleer, the superb 12-man ensemble known as "an orchestra of voices." Chanticleer is one of the premiere vocal ensembles in the nation. The ensemble has won two Grammys and is a member of the American Classical Music Hall of Fame.

Wed Dec 25 12-2p

St. Olaf Christmas Festival 2024

For one and a half centuries, St. Olaf has been a hub of connections, knowledge, and growth. And for more than a century, the St. Olaf Christmas festival has been a cherished part of that history. Join us as we celebrate their legacy.

Wed Dec 25 at 3p

Three Tales of Christmas with Cantus

In Christmas with Cantus, Cantus weaves together three holiday stories with time-honored carols and new classics. Blending narration and song, the program features Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol and Christine LÊ's The Hawai'i Snowman, alongside Mark Twain's "A Letter from Santa Claus," offering an opportunity to reflect on the meaning and joy of the holiday season.

Wed Jan 1 at 2p

New Year's Day From Vienna 2025

The popular annual New Year's Day Concert will be performed by the Vienna Philharmonic under the baton of Maestro Daniel Barenboim. With this concert it is not only the desire of the Vienna Philharmonic to provide musically definitive interpretations of the masterworks of this genre, but also, as musical ambassadors of Austria, to send people all over the world a New Year's greeting in the spirit of hope, friendship and peace.